

CLAIMS:

1. A slider for a slide fastener, the slider comprising:
a slider body portion which is slidable along a pair of interlocking stringers to engage and disengage the stringers, the slider body portion having an upper side for a puller or the like, for a user to slide the slider along the stringers; and
a latch portion on an underneath side of the slider body portion for engaging the slider with a co-operating slider.
2. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the latch portion comprises a snap fit latching member for engaging and disengaging the co-operating slider.
3. A slider as claimed in claim 2, wherein the latch portion comprises a receiving member for receiving a latching member of the co-operating slider.
4. A slider as claimed in claim 3, wherein one or both of the latching member or the receiving member are resiliently deformed on engagement and disengagement with the co-operating slider.
5. A slider as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the slider and co-operating slider are identical.
6. A slider as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the latch portion is attachable to the slider body portion by a form locking connection.
7. A slider as claimed in claim 6, wherein the form locking connection is comprised of one or more notches on the slider body portion which are slidably insertable into a corresponding number of recesses in the latch portion.
8. A slider as claimed in claim 7, wherein the notch is a ramp having a sloped face and an erect face, the erect face abutting a side of the recess to prevent retraction of the slider body portion from the latch portion.

9. A slide fastener comprising:

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together, each slider having a slider body portion, the slider body portion having an upper side for a puller or the like, for a user to slide the slider along the stringers;

a receiving portion disposed on the underneath side of the first slider body portion; and

a latching member disposed on the underneath side of the second slider body portion and engageable with the receiving portion;

wherein the receiving portion is arranged to engage with the latching member, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together.

10. A slide fastener comprising:

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together, each slider having a slider body portion, the slider body portion having an upper side for a puller or the like, for a user to slide the slider along the stringers;

a first receiving portion disposed on the underneath side of the first slider body portion;

a first latching member disposed on the underneath side of the second slider body portion and engageable with the first receiving portion;

a second receiving portion disposed on the underneath side of the first slider body portion;

a second latching member disposed on the underneath side of the second slider body portion and engageable with the second receiving portion;

wherein the first and second receiving portions are arranged to engage with the first and second latching members respectively, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together.

11. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first slider and second slider are identical.

12. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 9, 10 or 11, wherein the latching member and receiving portion releasably latch as a snap fit connection.
13. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 12, wherein one or both of the latching member or the receiving portion are resiliently deformed on engagement and disengagement with the other slider.
14. A slide fastener as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 13, wherein the latch member is attachable to the slider body portion by a form locking connection.
15. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 14, wherein the form locking connection is comprised of one or more notches on the slider body portion which are slidably insertable into a corresponding number of recesses in the latch member.
16. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 15, wherein the notch is a ramp having a sloped face and an erect face, the erect face abutting a side of the recess to prevent retraction of the slider body portion from the latch member.
17. A slide fastener comprising:
a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together, each slider having a slider body portion having upper and lower wings which sandwich slider elements between them, a puller or the like mounted on the upper wing, for a user to slide the slider along the stringers;
a receiving portion disposed on the lower wing of the first slider body portion;
and
a latching member disposed on the lower wing of the second slider body portion and engageable with the receiving portion;
wherein the receiving portion is arranged to engage with the latching member, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together.
18. A slide fastener comprising:

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together, each slider having a slider body portion, the slider body portion having upper and lower wings which sandwich slider elements between them, a puller or the like mounted on the upper wing, for a user to slide the slider along the stringers;

a first receiving portion disposed on the lower wing of the first slider body portion;

a first latching member disposed on the lower wing of the second slider body portion and engageable with the first receiving portion;

a second receiving portion disposed on the lower wing of the first slider body portion;

a second latching member disposed on the lower wing of the second slider body portion and engageable with the second receiving portion;

wherein the first and second receiving portions are arranged to engage with the first and second latching members respectively, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together.

19. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first slider and second slider are identical.

20. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 17, 18 or 19, wherein the latching member and receiving portion releasably latch as a snap fit connection.

21. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 20, wherein one or both of the latching member or the receiving portion are resiliently deformed on engagement and disengagement with the other slider.

22. A slide fastener as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 21, wherein a force of between 15 and 25N is applied to release the first and second sliders.

23. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 22, wherein a force of between 18 and 22N is applied to release the first and second sliders.

24. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 22, wherein a force of 20N is applied to release the first and second sliders.

25. A bag comprising:

a slide fastener having a pair of interlocking stringers on the edge of an opening in an outer wall of the bag;

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on the stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together;

a receiving portion disposed on the first slider; and

a latching member disposed on the second slider and engageable with the receiving portion;

wherein the receiving portion is arranged to engage with the latching member, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together and wherein the receiving portion and latching member are disposed on the inside of the bag.

26. A bag comprising:

a slide fastener having a pair of interlocking stringers on the edge of an opening in an outer wall of the bag;

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on the stringers so as to open the slide fastener when separated and close the slide fastener when brought together;

a first receiving portion disposed on the first slider;

a first latching member disposed on the second slider and engageable with the second receiving portion;

a second receiving portion disposed on the second slider; and

a second latching member disposed on the second slider and engageable with the second receiving portion;

wherein the first and second receiving portions are arranged to engage with the first and second latching members respectively, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together and wherein the receiving portion and latching member are disposed on the inside of the bag.

27. A bag as claimed in claim 26, wherein the first slider and second slider are identical.

28. A bag as claimed in claim 25, 26 or 27, wherein the latching member and receiving portion releasably latch as a snap fit connection.

29. A bag as claimed in claim 28 wherein one or both of the latching member or the receiving portion are resiliently deformed on engagement and disengagement with the other slider.

30. A bag as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 29, wherein the latch member is attachable to the slider body portion by a form locking connection.

31. A bag as claimed in claim 30, wherein the form locking connection is comprised of one or more notches on the slider body portion which are slidably insertable into a corresponding number of recesses in the latch member.

32. A bag as claimed in claim 31, wherein the notch is a ramp having a sloped face and an erect face, the erect face abutting a side of the recess to prevent retraction of the slider body portion from the latch member.

33. A bag as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 32, wherein a force of between 15 and 25N is applied to release the first and second sliders.

34. A bag as claimed in claim 33, wherein a force of between 18 and 22N is applied to release the first and second sliders.

35. A slide fastener as claimed in claim 34, wherein a force of 20N is applied to release the first and second sliders.